

## THE CITY BOTTLE OF WATER

the city met again yesterday. A hearing was first given to Jackson S. Schultz, who said that the average citizen, when asked what is the principal danger to be apprehended in case of a short water supply, would say at once, a large conflagration. He did not think there was any danger of a lack of water for culinary purposes or for preparing tea or

mixing toddy. The plan he was about to present had been pool-poohed, but, nevertheless, he had faith in it. In the year 1889 the Board of Health employed William E. Worthen, a well-known civil engineer, to report on the use which could be made of the water of the North and East Rivers for washing the streets and for other purposes. He extended the scope of his investigation and finally formulated a plan for securing a high pressure of water. This plan was discussed by many gentlemen. One prominent capitalist was so convinced of the feasibility of the plan that he offered to put \$1,000,000 into a company if permission could be obtained from the Common Council to lay pipes under the streets. An unsuccessful effort was made to obtain the necessary franchise. It was estimated that each store and warehouse would pay from \$250 to \$300 for the privilege of using this system for hydraulic elevators. It had been stated that the Fire Underwriters objected to the use of salt water because in case of a fire salt water would destroy everything it touched. Mr. Schultz recollected, however, when, before 1912, nothing but salt water was used to extinguish fires. He believed that there was not much difference between fresh and salt water in damaging goods. Mr. Schultz continued:

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In response to questions by the commission, Mr. Schultz said that salt water could not be used in boilers, but that the corrosion of iron pipes by salt water would not be a serious obstacle to their use.

Mr. Fetter said that he liked the plan and would like to take it to the board of directors. He would do anything he could to aid in getting the scheme through the Common Council or, furthermore, in any other way. After Mr. Schultz had gone out, Mr. Fetter, in addition to Mr. Schultz, was on the commission, and then it was a question whether it would not be better to raise the present Croton Dam fifteen or twenty feet or build a large and higher dam near the present one. Mr. Fetter said that the latter course "would be increased, I think, by the expense."

believed that the child had been born that would see New York a city of 6,000,000 or 7,000,000 inhabitants. When that time arrived the city would have to draw part of its water supply from Lake George and the Adirondacks. The new aqueduct should be of larger capacity, as to accommodate

C. H. Roosevelt, advocated the merits of a new water supply, the Institution of Engineers, the Department of Public Works, the object of which was to prevent waste of the Croton.

Engineers Newton and Church, of the Department of Public Works, requested \$25,000 as the amount of the estimate. They placed it at from 25 to 30 per cent. of the entire supply. This was due partly to negligence on the part of occupants of premises and increased by the fact that the City had not for forty-ninth-st, an inspection showed that during the night in each of twenty-one or twenty-three houses, the water was used at the rate of 100 gallons per hour. In one case a waste of 119 gallons per hour was discovered. Mr. Potter strongly advocated the use of meters, as they indicated economy in the use of water. The City of New York did not necessarily follow. The New-York Hospital had a meter, and yet it used 50,000 gallons of water.

Mr. Potter mentioned the case of a leak from a pipe communicating with a store which he owns at Forty-second-st. and Broadway. It leaked a stream about two inches in size. He called the attention of the Department of Public Works to the matter, but it had never been looked after, and he was compelled to have a pipe placed to carry the leakage into the sewer.

The commission adjourned to Monday at 2:30 p. m.

Postmaster Pearson yesterday dismissed from office superintendent William M. Hengery, of Station A, for insubordination, disobedience of orders and making false reports. Superintendent William A. Syme was transferred from Station E to Station A, superintendent J. A. Wilder from Station H to Station E, Superintendent Warren Calhoun from Station I to Station H, and Chief Clerk E. M. Morgan, of Station B, was made Superintendent of Branch L.

**THE COURTS.**

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**THE CHARTER OF THE MUTUAL UNION.**

Attorney-General Russell yesterday appeared before Justice Barrett, in the Supreme Court, to argue the motion recently made by him for an order granting him leave to bring an action against the Mutual Union Company to have its charter declared forfeited. He was assisted on the motion by E. C. James and Julian T. Davies. Mr. Davies began the argument in support of the motion. He said that the

proposed action was based on the allegations that the company had, contrary to law, increased its stock from \$600,000 to \$10,000,000. The company had also issued

bonds to the amount of \$9,500,000, \$3,000,000 of which it had given to Jean G. Moore & Co., for the construction of its lines. Ex-Judge Green, for the company, read an affidavit of Charles F. P. Calk, its secretary, in which the history of the company was set forth. He stated that J. Gay Gould and William H. Cameron were both disqualified from being relatives in the suit. J. Gould in particular proposed to act as sole counsel on the ground that he was a stock holder, and in the next breath he declared that the stock which he held was fraudulently issued and had no legal existence. E. C. James, in reply to Judge Green, said that a prima facie case had been made out against the company, and that, therefore, leave was granted to taking the suit. Robert Sewall, for

Francis N. Bangs said that the relators, Gould and Cameron, did not own any of the original stock of the company. The only stock which they held had been bought with full knowledge of the increase, which was said to be so grave an offense against the law as to justify the courts in declaring the company's charter null and void.

felied. Moreover, Jay Gould had bought the company for himself, but for the Western Union Company, which was a rival of the Western Union Company, and which had to its unvarying policy, was trying to destroy its rival. The Attorney-general told to Mr. Bangs, said that his own interest had been governed solely by the command of duty. He had no personal interests, whatever in the suit. He had brought the action directly in the name of the people, because he wanted the public to know who were the persons who were promoting it. The company had increased its capital stock in an illegal manner, and thereby forfeited its right to sue. An action might be brought either in the name of the people or in the name of the relators. Justice Barrett reserved his decision.

A dispute has arisen between Alderman F. J. Gleason, of Long Island City, and the stockholders of the Astoria and Hunter's Point Horse Railroad, of which he is president. The stockholders have brought suit against the Alderman to recover rent which they allege to be due from him to the company. He leased the road at a fixed rental, but the shareholders assert that he has not paid any rent for four years.

Agnes Dowd recently began an action in the Court of Common Pleas against the Manhattan Railway Company, to recover \$5,000 as damages for injuries received by her while riding on the company's road. She

John Galligan a short time ago began an action in the Superior Court against the New York Concert Company to restrain it from maintaining or erecting a "concert platform or ornamental porch" on its building.